




Ken Wagner, Ph.D.  
Commissioner

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
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Enclosure 6b7  
May 15, 2018

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**TO:** Members of the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education

**FROM:** Ken Wagner, Ph.D., Commissioner 

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Necessity of School Construction: Smithfield

The Council on Elementary and Secondary Education has as one of its responsibilities reviewing and certifying the need for school construction projects to be reimbursed through the school housing aid program and the SBA Capital Fund. Most large projects are supported by bonds and are comprehensive projects with major renovation and/or new construction components. Article 9 of the FY16 State Budget lifted the moratorium on school construction, created the School Building Authority (SBA) at the RI Department of Education, created the SBA Capital Fund, and changed the multi-stage Necessity of School Construction application to an annual process. Because of this, the Board will be asked to review and approve projects annually at the end of each fiscal year.

At this meeting, the Council is being asked to approve prioritized Major Projects and Fast Track Repairs. A chart summarizing Smithfield School District's projects is provided in Attachment 1.

**RECOMMENDATION: THAT, the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education approve the necessity of school construction projects totaling \$47,708,164 pursuant to 16-7-41.1 as follows (please note that when the applicable reimbursement share ratios are applied to the estimated total project costs noted below, the state share is expected to be \$16,697,857):**

**Smithfield:**

i.	Anna M. McCabe Elementary	\$22,599,420
ii.	Raymond LaPerche Elementary	\$14,630,981
iii.	Old County Road Elementary	\$ 8,323,975
iv.	William Winsor Elementary	\$ 108,424
v.	Vincent Gallagher Middle	\$ 195,992
vi.	Smithfield High School	\$ 1,849,372

## SUMMARY: FY 2018 NECESSITY OF CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

SMITHFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	JUSTIFICATION	FY 2018 AID SHARE RATIO*	ESTIMATED PROJECT COST	STATE SHARE	STATE SHARE W/ INTEREST**
<b>Major Projects</b>	This project includes additions and renovations at three elementary schools – McCabe Elementary, LaPerche Elementary, and Old County Elementary – as part of a districtwide masterplan that includes closing one school.	This plan addresses the needs of the Smithfield School District through the additions and renovations to three elementary educational facilities, which will address high priority systems repairs, as well as educational program improvements to accommodate all of the district's elementary aged students.	35%	\$45,000,000 (Bond)	\$15,750,000	\$22,365,000
<b>Fast Track Repairs</b>	As part of the masterplan this project will also address repairs at the other Smithfield School District facilities: Winsor Elementary School, Gallagher Middle School, and the Smithfield High School.	This project includes health and safety improvements, including: electrical and plumbing repairs, site repairs, structural repairs, and other building system improvements that affect student and staff health and safety.		\$2,708,164 (Capital Reserve)	\$947,857	\$947,857

\* State share ratio is based on FY2018 calculation. District may be eligible for additional reimbursement through incentives.

\*\* Only bonds financed through RIHEBC are eligible for reimbursement on interest. Smithfield intends to pay for projects out of both bond proceeds and capital reserve funds as detailed above.